



# TOWN OF VERNON

P.O. Box 54  
Vernon, CT 06066  
[www.vernonfire.com](http://www.vernonfire.com)



## STAFF MEETING MINUTES

RECEIVED BY EMAIL

April 2, 2018

Chiefs: Eppler, Babcock, Arel

Captains: Andresen, Fisher, Lucas, Maguda, McKinney, Muniz, Robertson, Shepard, Solito, Tautic

Lieut: Schambach

Ambulance: Gauthier

FMO: Walker, Call

Fleet Mgmt: Westcott

Fire Police: Prue

Chaplain: Folland

Support Members: Carpenter, Galley

RECEIVED  
VERNON FIRE DEPARTMENT  
18 APR - 9 AM 9:01

The meeting was called to order @ 19:05 hrs. by Fire Chief, Stephen Eppler. Motion was made/seconded (Solito/Robertson) to accept the minutes from the March 5, 2018 meeting.

### ADMINISTRATION REPORT - A/C Babcock:

- Thank you to all those who assisted with and attended the services for Charlie Konarski, as well as the last minute standby honoring Trooper First Class Miller of the CT State Police.
- 6 new FF recruits have started with the Recruit Training Program.
- The needed Fire helmet identification shields have been ordered. Will advise upon their delivery.

### MEMBERSHIP:

New: Tim Campominosi

Resignation: Alison Robinson, Chris Bartos , LT Chris Pearson (Effective 4/4/18)

Transfer: Anthony Dejesus – Initial Training to Fire Police

Full Membership: Ryan Hulsart (ET-441) , Nick Bush (TW-141) , Esteban Enriquez (TW-541) , Luis Enriquez (TW-541).

Deceased: Charlie Konarski (FP)

Rank Changes: Engineer Dana Robertson (E-441) to Acting 1<sup>st</sup> LT (E-441) , effective 4/4/18

***TRAINING REPORT – A/C Arel:***

- Training Committee Minutes from March 22, 2018 are attached.
- April Operations and Training Report is attached.
- April Drill Schedule is attached.
- There are still seats available for the CT DEEP Division of Forestry course on Wideland Firefighting on April 5, 2018 – 1830-2130 hrs. at the TAC building on Hyde Ave.
- Target Solutions 7 members still have not completed Bloodborne Pathogens. The Captains of those members were asked to meet with Chief Eppler following the meeting.
- Live Burn at CFA for the last recruit class will be held on 4/28/18. A company officer from any of the recruits can attend; members who did not attend the last two burns can attend, and South Windsor may be sending members. If there is space if you feel there is a member that would benefit from attending the live burn, please contact A/C Arel.

***HEALTH & SAFETY - Hammick: No Report.***

***FIRE MARSHAL: Walker/Call – See attached.***

- Undergraduate Intern is being sought. The position will focus on new construction issues.
- West Main Street water mains will be upgraded.
- ET-241 key secure box is back from repair and will be installed tomorrow.
- Hockanum Brew Fest will be held on 4/21/18 from 1300 – 1600 hrs. Planning is still on-going .
- Knox home box was displayed to those present. The cost for the home unit is \$135 and would be especially helpful for the elderly. Contact the Fire Marshal's office if interested in purchasing a unit.
- Washers at Station 141 will be installed within the next couple of weeks.
- Fire House software questions regarding CAD closure/timing were discussed by Bill Call.
- Issues were discussed for putting in injured parties at fires. Keep information at minimal. Not everyone will see the information, only those with the authority to access.
- Mandatory individual company narratives functionality will be coming. For any potential litigation purposes it is imperative this detailed information is provided.
- If invalid incidents are seen on Firehouse Software, notify A/C Babcock for correction. This is a simple error to fix through TN.

**EMD –Purcaro:** No Report.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** - Fisher:

- As you may already be aware, we are having significant interference on the FD to PD (Channel 7) in all UHF radios. Hopefully this interference will go away, but I feel that this may be someone new putting a new radio service in operation close to or on our channel, that will not go away. With that, I suggest that if it is bothering you to delete it from your scan list for the time being. To do this follow the following steps on the UHF RADIO ONLY.
  1. Take the radio out of scan. ( portable, station and mobile radios )
  2. Go to channel # 7 (FD to PD ) ( portable station and mobile radios )
  3. There should be a small triangle on the right side of the display. On the portables and station radios Press the "A" button on the front panel and on the mobiles press the "D/A" button, that triangle should disappear. You can now go back to channel #1 (Fox Hill) and back to scan if you so desire.

It is my understanding that the PD has already silenced this channel due to the interference. If that is so, they will not hear you calling them now therefore if you need to contact the PD go through TN.

Hopefully we will have a resolution to this issue shortly.

- The portable radio for ET-141 is still missing (from Sunset Terrace fire). It was brought up the UTV-441 portable radio was never found either (almost 2 years ago).
- Replacement ear muffs are on order for headsets.

**FINANCE – Fisher:**

- The Budget is still in a freeze but necessary purchases are being made (safety, repair, etc.).

The FD budget hearing held last Thursday, a couple of cuts were forfeited from accounts not fully being utilized. The FD budget was then cleared through to the next step with the Town Council tomorrow night.

- Bill Call suggested washers for each fire house
- Keep track of items that are broken. Put requests in through the chief for items needed.

**FLEET MGMT - Westcott/Robinson:**

- Nine vehicles were repaired:
  - ET-541 – DPW has been in contact with Firematic for corrective action for repair.
  - S141 – 4 wheel drive repaired. Idle air control module repaired.
  - R-441 – Light sense light bulb was replaced. Left front ground light replaced.
  - T-141 – 12 March out of service for injector. DPW ordered and replaced injector, and is back in service.
  - T-141 – L/S tail light repaired. Broken wire.
  - ET-441 – valve on side of transmission is leaking. DPW has looked at it and ordered part.
  - ET-441 – Gas meter (new) has been installed. Also has new temp. gauge.

ET-341 – New pump switch and gas meter were installed.

ET-241 – Brake adjustment was made by DPW Truck was pulling to the right when brake applied.

T-541 – Water leak, seat and steering wheel issues were corrected by DPW.

- **Driver Training:**

T-141 – 2 drivers were taken out and signed off by Fleet operations. Paperwork forwarded to Training Officer.

Ambulance – 1 driver was signed off and paperwork given to Asst. Supervisor.

- Pump testing and ladder inspection planned the week of August 13 – 17, 2018 at Station 141. Start time is 7:00 a.m. on Monday with pump services, then pump test and ladder inspections. Any personnel that are able to help, please contact Fleet Manager.
- Most truck checks have been received, please get them in ASAP.

***TECHNOLOGY*** – Galley:

- Problems with passwords updates have been fixed. New Password reset buttons have been installed.
- Station 341 problems with Active 911 are being looked into.
- Please make sure that all new users enroll & reset passwords every six months. New passwords require 8 digits with capital letter, number and special character.
- Station 2, 4 (Printers) and needed PC's (upgrade end of life technology) will be quoted through IT.

***CHAPLAIN*** – Folland:

- Barry and Kathy Call will be attending an upcoming Emotional Trauma Life Support class.
- New Phone # 860 858-1779.
- Barry is available as a resource if needed.
- 

***CENTRAL SUPPLY/UNIFORMS*** - Goric:

- Helmet identification shields have been ordered.
- Gear inspections need to be conducted.
- Class A & C Uniform requests are being received.

***SCBA:*** - Shepard:

- 25 cylinders will be going out of service for end of life this summer. Replacements will be ordered. Chief Eppler plans to purchase 2 - 60 minute and 12 - 30 minute bottles this fiscal year.

- New packs have been tagged, final inspection is needed.
- A new way of identifying packs is needed. Labels do not stay on.
- 2 pack trackers for each rescue may also be pursued.
- Station 341 air compressor for filling air truck is out of service. Filling of air truck is being done at Station 141.
- Aerial air bottles need to go out for hydro-testing.

***PUBLIC RELATIONS EVENTS - Muniz:***

Last month we had a couple of events nothing major. I'll list them below.

- March 7th Safety talk with VPD (CANCELED)
- March 12th Boys Scouts at Station 441
- March 26th Boys Scouts at Station 441
- March 23rd - 25th I attended National Fire Academy and took Youth Fire-setter. TVFD Public relations dept. will be working with Chief Eppler and FMO on a program for the Town of Vernon. More to come out later.

**April activities:**

- April 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting on Mock Car Crash @ 10:00.
- April 11th Safety talk/Touch-A-Truck. 375 Hartford Tpke. for kids camp. Between 9:30am and 4:30pm I'll get a set time ASAP. I need one Engine with man power.
- April 17th TVFD Training Class will be using Fire Safety Unit for the extinguish prop. Lt. Orlowski will take care of it.
- May 19<sup>th</sup> PWD Community Touch-A-Truck at Public works parking lot. 8am to Noon. Looking for one Tower, ET-141, Rescue, and UTV. If all the trucks can't make it I'll use other trucks within reason.
- April 28th CERT Team at station 141 to teach fire extinguishers. Lt. Orlowski and myself to handle.

If anyone is available for any of the events, please let me know.

If anyone is inquiring about public safety events please refer them to me via office phone or my Email  
Office Phone - 860-871-7468 Ext. \*2. Do not give out Tony's personal phone number.

Email - [tmuniz@vernon-ct.gov](mailto:tmuniz@vernon-ct.gov)

Vernonfire.com under community events there is a spot for Public Relations this comes straight to me and my team.

***OLD BUSINESS:***

- The Connecticut Fire Officers Weekend was held March 23 – 25, 2018 at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, MD. 11 members attended.

***NEW BUSINESS:***

- The Executive Board is working on a plan for a photographer. Members are reminded photos at scenes do not go out on social media. If anyone has pictures to share, contact the Executive Board first.
- If needed, the FD will provide necessary support to the Rockville Brew Fest.
- Officer training after staff meeting will resume next month.

***CORRESPONDENCE:***

- Note received from Chaplain Jeff Gallagher, United Congregational Church of Tolland offering condolences for the passing of Charlie Konarski and offering services to the department, if needed.

***UPCOMING EVENTS:***

- Dedication of Recognition Walkway –Tentatively scheduled for Sunday, 5/20/18. Email will follow.
- Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, May 28, 2018. Kick off at 10:00 @ Northeast School.
- Mother's Day Dash 5/13/18. Ambulance and both UTV's will attend. IAP is being developed.
- July 10<sup>th</sup> Fireworks, rain date 7/11. More details to follow.

***GOOD & WELFARE:***

***ADJOURNMENT:***

Motion was made/seconded (Galley/Prue) to adjourn the meeting @ 2030 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,



Diane Carpenter, Secretary